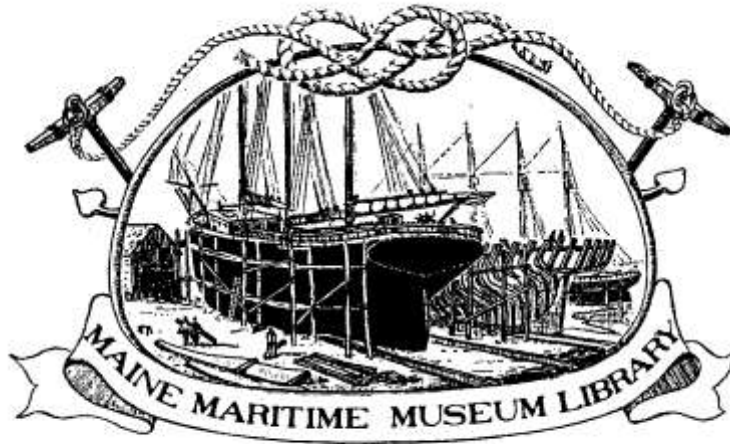


Maine Maritime Museum Library

243 Washington Street
Bath, Maine 04530-1638
(207) 443-1316, ext. 328, 336



**Inventory for
Manuscript Collection
MS - 23**

Page Family Papers

**1770 to 1951
Bulk: 1835 to 1936**

by
Elisabeth Meier
February 2018

One box
.5 linear feet
Accession no. 72.178.142-168

Copyright Restrictions

The material described herein is the physical property of the Maine Maritime Museum Library. **Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors of the various items, or to their legal representatives, or to Maine Maritime Museum.** For further information, consult the library staff.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be *“used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research.”* If a user later uses a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of “fair use,” that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if fulfillment of the order is judged to be in violation of copyright law.

It is the user’s responsibility to understand the copyright law concerning the use of the historical documents contained in this library.

Copyright © 2018 by Maine Maritime Museum

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Maine Maritime Museum Library.

Foreward

This collection was first processed in 1983 by Bette DeVeuve as coursework for the University of Rhode Island. Further work, and significant genealogical research, was undertaken by library volunteer Richard Spear in 2016.

Abstract

Page Family

Papers, 1774 to 1951

Bulk dates: 1835 to 1936

1 box; .5 linear feet

Bath, Maine family involved in business and real estate.

This collection contains deeds, probate records, inventories, depositions, correspondence, and other business and personal papers related to five generations of the Page family of Bath, Maine. It also has business papers from several firms that the family was involved in, including the National Steamship Company, Eureka Milling Company, the Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Company, and the Bath jewelers A.G. Page & Company. A few papers from the Drummond, Grinnell, and other laterally related families can be found here.

Gift of Dr. Charles E. Burden in the name of Heidi Burden.

MS-23. Accession #72.178.142-168.

Finding aid in repository. Related materials in repository.

Added entries—persons:

Goss, Guy C.

Page, Albert Gallatin (1817-1889)

Page, Albert Gallatin Jr. (1851-1920)

Page, Frank L. Grinnell (1886-1959)

Page, Frederick A. (1864-1935)

Page, Joshua (1782-1861)

Page, Solomon (c.1710-1788)

Richardson, John G.

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):

A.G. Page & Co.

Eureka Milling Company

Hinckley Knitting Machine Company

James Boyce Jr. (Schooner)

National Steamship Company (Dover, Delaware)

Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Company (Alexandria, Va.)

Woman's Exchange (Bath, Me.)

Added entries—key terms:

Bath (Me.) – Businesses

Customs courts

Deeds

Inventories

Investments

Jewelers

Manufactures
Page family
Ships, Iron and steel
Steamboat lines
Stores, Retail
Tariff
Wills

Acquisition

This collection was given to the museum by Dr. Charles E. Burden in the name of Heidi Burden in 1972. It is part of a larger group of material related to the Page family.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on this collection.

Physical Condition

The documents are in good condition, with the exception of a 1774 mortgage (folder 2), which is fragile.

Related Materials

This collection came with a number of other materials related to the Page family. There is an extensive collection of family photos, PC-72, with material from the 1860s through the mid-twentieth century. Related objects include Frank E. Page's sea chest (72.178.5), a pair of linen trousers (72.178.6), and a caulking mallet, sharpening stone, cord-wood saw, and plane (72.178.1-4). Richard Spear's genealogical research is in MS-54.

Historical Note

Joshua Page (1784-1851) arrived in Bath in 1805, the first of this branch of the Page family to do so. (Solomon Page, who purchased a plot of land on High Street in 1774, is apparently unrelated.) Joshua Page taught at the Erudition School in Bath. He married Keziah Stockbridge, a Bath native.

Albert Gallatin Page (Sr.) (1817-1889) was the first of Joshua Page's ten children and the only one represented in this collection. He went on a single deep-sea voyage at age fifteen, then spent two years in Ohio. On returning to Bath, he operated a grocery store on Front Street before switching to the business of insurance, real estate, and ship brokerage.

Albert Gallatin Page was an enthusiastic town booster and an active investor in new and innovative businesses. He was heavily involved in an 1866 effort to make Bath the terminus of the proposed National Steamship Line (a company underwritten by Cornelius Vanderbilt, among others), a move that was supposed to turn the town into a major railroad hub and the principle departure point for American passengers and cargo to Europe. He was also a founding member of the Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Company (1882-1895), a short-lived partnership engineered by Guy C. Goss to build iron sailing ships in Alexandria, VA. Other efforts included the Eureka Milling Company of Bath (1869-c.1871), a partnership with John G. Richardson to refine barium

(barytes) for use in manufacturing, and the Bath Iron & Manufacturing Company, to produce emery cloth.

Albert Gallatin Page had eight children, five of whom are represented significantly in this collection.

Albert Gallatin Page, Jr. (1851-1920) operated a jewelry store, A.G. Page & Co., in the Sagadahock Block, Front Street, Bath, from 1879 to his death in 1920. He took his brother Fredrick Alexander Page (1864-1935) on as a partner; Frederick continued the business until his own death.

William Drummond Page (1853-1894) and Frank Edward Page (1860-1909) both became lawyers, settling respectively in New York City and Chicago. Both brothers maintained ties with the family in Bath, particularly with their sister Catharine "Carrie" (Page) Hawley (1866-1960). William married Helen J. Grinnell, of New York, in 1882. Their son, Frank L. Grinnell Page (1886-1959), an engineer who apprenticed with the C& O Railroad, is responsible for many of the later letters in this collection.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains personal and business papers related to five generations of the Page family. The business and real estate papers mostly relate to Bath, Maine, between 1835 and 1935; personal correspondence ranges farther afield as later generations of Pages moved away from town.

Material related to the real and personal estates of the Page family forms Series I. There is a substantial collection of deeds and depositions that, together, give a detailed account of land use and ownership around the intersection of High, Center, and Lincoln Streets in Bath. These also cover property on Stage Island in the Kennebec River, Piscataquis County, and Drummond Family land in Boothbay. The remainder of the series consists of material related to investments, personal business, and probate records for Joshua Page, Albert G. Page Sr., Albert G. Page Jr., and Frederick A. Page.

Series II contains papers related to several corporations that the Page family was involved in. These are mostly comprised of leases, legal documents, and correspondence relating to court cases, and do not address day-to-day operations. Among the more substantial accretions, the material related to the National Steamship Company contains a fairly complete record of efforts to entice the steamship line to come to Bath. Likewise, there is copious correspondence regarding a court case over the Eureka Milling Company's non-payment of customs duties on barium imported from Nova Scotia. The documents related to the Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Co. are scanty, but address setting up the shipyard and include accounts from early voyages of the *James Boyce Jr.* (schooner), the first vessel launched from that yard.

Series III, personal papers, primarily consists of letters between various family members. A majority of these letters originate with William D. Page's branch of the family. Though sporadic, they contain notes on settling estates as well as pleasantries about daily life. There is also a folder of ephemera—notices of lecture series, high school graduations, calling cards, and similar—that depicts the larger Page family's social life in late-nineteenth century Bath.

Series IV contains a genealogical notebook and pamphlet. The former includes notes on Page, Drummond, and related family histories as well as a list of heirlooms collected from each; the latter is about the Beath family of Boothbay, ME.

Box and Folder List

Series I: Estate Papers

Box	Folder	
1	1	Depositions regarding Sumersett Point in Merrymeeting Bay, Bowdoin v. Branch, 1770 (19 th century copy)
	2	Mortgage Deed, Solomon Page, 1774
	3	Deeds and related papers, 1817-1861
	4	Deeds and related papers, 1876-1951
	5	Personal business papers and accounts, Albert G. Page Sr., 1841-1880
	6	Personal business papers, Albert G. Page Jr., 1907
	7	Probate records and estate settlement, Joshua Page, 1861-1892
	8	Probate records and estate settlement, Albert G. Page Sr., 1889-1895
	9	Probate records and estate settlement, Frederick A. Page, 1930-1937

Series II: Corporate Papers

Box	Folder	
1	10	National Steamship Company, 1866-1867
	11	Eureka Milling Company, 1869-1881
	12	Hinckley Knitting Machine Company, 187-
	13	Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Company, 1882
	14	Accounts, <i>James Boyce Jr.</i> (schooner), Virginia Iron Shipbuilding Co., 1882
	15	Rent receipts, Woman's Exchange, 1899, 1910-1911
	16	A.G. Page & Company, 1902-1936

Series III: Personal Papers

Box	Folder	
1	17	Letters, Page family, 1863-1893
	18	Letters, Page family, 1928-1944 and undated
	19	Letters, Gertrude (Mrs. Frank E.) Page to Catherine D. Page Hawley, 1909-1935
	20	Letters, Frank L. Grinnell Page and family, 1890-1951
	21	Diary of a trip to Canada, Frank L. Grinnell Page, 1907
	22	Personal papers, Frank L. Grinnell Page, 1908, 1917
	23	Letters, Grinnell family, 1868-1908
	24	Ephemera, Bath, Maine, 1867-1903
	25	Poetry and religious writing, transcribed, 1890-1943

Series IV: Genealogy

Box	Folder	
1	26	Genealogical notebook, Lina Andrews, c. 1900
	27	Pamphlet, Kate Graupner Stone, "A History of Beath"